REMARKS

In order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 and 35 U.S.C. § 119(e)(1) for obtaining the benefit of related, earlier filed applications, Applicants have preliminarily amended the text of the first paragraph on page 1 of this U.S. national stage application to provide an updated cross-reference to related applications. As amended, the specification expressly states that this application is a U.S. national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of international application No. PCT/US2003/028392, filed September 10, 2003, designating the United States and claiming priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/409,439, filed September 10, 2002. Accordingly, the amendment brings the application into timely compliance with the requirements for claiming priority to related, earlier filed applications and, thus, adds no new matter. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant has amended Claims 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 19 to depend only from independent Claim 1. Similarly, Applicant has amended Claims 31 and 34 to depend only from independent Claim 21. Applicant has also amended Claims 46 and 47 to depend only from independent Claim 36. Accordingly, the amendments add no new matter, but simplify the dependencies of the claims. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Applicant has amended Claim 52 to correct an inadvertent typographical error in the claim number from which Claim 52 should properly depend. In particular, Applicant has amended Claim 52, to depend from Claim 51 instead of Claim 49. Claim 51 refers to an embodiment wherein the pol IIIE class enzyme is from Gram-negative bacteria, and Claim 52 specifies an embodiment wherein the Gram-negative bacteria are selected from a preferred list. Thus, as amended herein, Claim 52 logically depends from Claim 51. Claim 49 specifies a preferred list of Gram-positive bacteria and, thus, properly depends from Claim 48, which refers to the DNA polymerase from Gram-positive bacteria. Support for the amendment to Claim 52 is also found throughout the specification (see, e.g., in the specification, p. 5, lines 5-9; p. 6, line 24-p. 7, line 3; and p. 22, lines 14-27). Accordingly, the amendment adds no new matter. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant has canceled Claims 53 and 54.

Applicant has amended Claim 55 to clearly recite that the pyrazole carboxylic acid hydrazide compound present in the claimed pharmaceutical composition has the structure of formula 1a or 1b, as recited in original Claims 1, 21, and 36, and as described in the specification (see, e.g., in the specification, p. 15, line 11-p. 16, line 12). Accordingly, the amendment adds no new matter, and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant has also added new Claim 56 that depends from Claim 55 to cover the embodiment wherein the pyrazole carboxylic acid hydrazide compound present in the pharmaceutical composition of Claim 55 has the particular structure specified as Formula 2, as recited in original Claims 5, 25, and 40, and as described in the specification (see, e.g., in the specification, p. 19, line 27-p. 20, line 15). Accordingly, new Claim 56 adds no new matter.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of all of the amendments described above prior to calculation of the fees and examination on the merits.
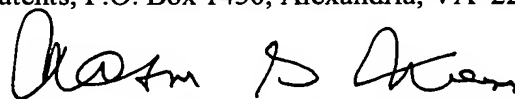
Respectfully submitted,

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_____March 8, 2005_____
Date

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Nasim G. Memon

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